

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OIC-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9676

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AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL LYON

UNCLAS GENEVA 3360

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IARC WHO

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER (IARC),
15TH GOVERNING COUNCIL

REF: STATE 100852

1. SUMMARY: SESSION TOOK STEPS TO ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERSHIPS. DECIDED ON INFORMAL APPROACHES TO URGE ITALY TO PAY ITS ARREARS. AGREED TO PLAY DOWN FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNEP FOR RENTED SPACE IN IARC BUILDING IN ANTICIPATION OF MORE ATTRACTIVE AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE. DIRECTOR'S EXTERNAL BORROWING AUTHORITY AND HIS AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER ACTIVITIES AND FUNDS WITHIN BIENNIUM WERE CONFIRMED. DIRECTOR HIGGINSON WAS PROMOTED AND HIS TERM OF OFFICE RENEWED. END SUMMARY.

2. IARC GOVERNING COUNCIL (GC) MET IN LYON APRIL 29/30. CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING NEW MEMBERSHIPS RESULTED IN DECISION A) TO CREATE "5TH CATEGORY" OF MEMBERSHIP PAYING AN EQUAL SHARE
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OF 70 PERCENT ASSESSMENTS (ALTERNATIVE 1), AND B) TO

SET UP GC SUBCOMMITTEE OF FOUR MEMBERS (FROM DELEGATIONS OF NETHERLANDS, UK, FRANCE AND USSR) TO PREPARE GUIDELINES FOR ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OF NEW MEMBERS AND TO STUDY ANY FORMAL APPLICATIONS BEFORE PASSING THEM ON TO GC.

3. ITALY, BADLY IN ARREARS ON ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS, DID NOT ATTEND THIS SESSION. GC INFORMALLY AGREED THAT HIGGINSON SHOULD MAKE PERSONAL APPROACH TO ITALIAN HEALTH AUTHORITIES IN EFFORT TO STIMULATE PAYMENT.

4. HEAD OF USDEL, DR FRANK RAUSCHER (DIRECTOR OF NCI) BROUGHT ALONG MEMBER OF HIS STAFF (CALVIN BALDWIN) WHO PURSUED CERTAIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH IARC. THESE NEGOTIATIONS, BEGUN EARLIER, ARE AIMED AT REACHING AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH NCI IS TO FUND FINISHING OF TWO PRESENTLY VACANT FLOORS IN IARC BUILDING IN CONNECTION WITH NUMEROUS NCI-FUNDED PROJECTS IARC IS CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING. DR. RAUSCHER HAD TO RETURN TO US AFTER FIRST DAY. AT HIS REQUEST, USDEL ON SECOND DAY OFFERED SUGGESTION THAT, ONCE NEW SPACE READY, WHO MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER TRANSFERRING ITS CANCER UNIT (8-10 PEOPLE) FROM GENEVA TO IARC BUILDING.

5. PRIOR TO HEARING ABOUT IARC/NCI NEGOTIATIONS, GC HAD LISTENED TO DIRECTOR'S REPORT THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNEP OVER RENTAL OF ONE OF TWO FLOORS WERE STALLED. GC THEREFORE AGREED THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS BE PUT ON ICE FOR THE TIME BEING WHILE AWAITING RESULTS OF NCI-IARC NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS AGREED THAT GC WOULD RETAIN FULL AUTHORITY OVER USE TO WHICH TWO FLOORS WILL BE PUT WHEN FINISHED, BUT DETAILED DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT WAS POSTPONED AS BEING PREMATURE. DIRECTOR UNDERTOOK TO OBTAIN MEMBER STATE TELEGRAPHIC CONCURRENCE ON ANY NCI-IARC AGREEMENT AND ON ANY SUBSEQUENT PROPOSALS FOR UTILIZATION OF ADDITIONAL SPACE RESULTING FROM IT.

6. DIRECTOR'S AUTHORITY TO BORROW FUNDS UP TO ONE
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TWELFTH OF APPROVED BUDGET AFTER EXHAUSTION OF WORKING CAPITAL FUND DATES BACK TO OCTOBER 1972 (GC/11/R2). GC REAFFIRMED IT IN VIEW OF UNFAVORABLE STATUS OF ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS. USDEL AND OTHERS STRONGLY URGED THAT DIRECTOR TRY NOT TO USE IT. SECRETARIAT AGREED TO AUSTRALIAN SUGGESTION THAT -- IN INTEREST OF EDUCATING MEMBER GOVERNMENTS -- IT PREPARE CASH FLOW CHART AND A PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS OF

ASSESSMENTS. AUSTRALIANS BELIEVE THIS WILL HELP
CONVINCE CANBERRA TO PAY ASSESSMENTS EARLIER.
(CURRENTLY THEY PAY IN SEPTEMBER.)

7. GC TURNED DOWN DIRECTOR'S REQUEST THAT IT "CONFIRM"
BY NEW RESOLUTION HIS AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER ACTIVITIES
AND FUNDS WITHIN BIENNIUM FROM ONE YEAR TO OTHER.
GC REASONED THAT SUCH STEP UNNECESSARY SINCE THIS
AUTHORITY IS ALREADY ADEQUATELY BESTOWED ON DIRECTOR
BY RESOLUTION GC/14/R3 UNDER WHICH GC APPROVED BUDGET
FOR 1976/77 LAST YEAR. INCIDENTALLY, WHO DIRECTOR
FOR ADMINISTRATION, WARREN FURTH, POINTED OUT AT THIS
JUNCTURE THAT ILO DIRECTOR ALSO HAS SUCH AUTHORITY,
AND PROBABLY FAO AND UNESCO DIRECTORS AS WELL. FURTH
ADDED THAT WHO DIRECTOR GENERAL INTENDS TO REQUEST
THIS AUTHORITY WHEN WHO GOES ON TO "TRUE" BIENNIAL
BUDGET, THAT IS, ONCE WHO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON
BIENNIUM HAS BEEN RATIFIED.

8. EC DECIDED TO GRANT HIGGINSON PERQUISITES OF AN
ASSISTANT-DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WHO AND TO REQUEST
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WHO TO APPOINT HIM TO NEW FIVE
YEAR TERM STARTING JULY 1, 1976.

9. GC CHAIRMAN, PROF. S. HALTER (BELGIUM), WAS RE-
ELECTED TO FURTHER ONE YEAR TERM. NEW MEMBERS OF
SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ELECTED WERE J. MILLER (AUSTRALIA),
T. SUGIMURA (JAPAN), G.L.J. VAN DER SCHNEREN (BELGIUM). ABRAMS

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